

to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the question.

**Resolution 405 (1977)**  
**of 14 April 1977**

*The Security Council,*

*Having considered* the report<sup>70</sup> of the Security Council Special Mission to the People's Republic of Benin established under resolution 404 (1977) of 8 February 1977,

*Gravely concerned* at the violation of the territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty of the State of Benin,

*Deeply grieved* at the loss of life and substantial damage to property caused by the invading force during its attack on Cotonou on 16 January 1977,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Mission and expresses its appreciation for the work accomplished;

2. *Strongly condemns* the act of armed aggression perpetrated against the People's Republic of Benin on 16 January 1977;

3. *Reaffirms* its resolution 239 (1967) of 10 July 1967, by which, *inter alia*, it condemns any State which persists in permitting or tolerating the recruitment of mercenaries and the provision of facilities to them, with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of Member States;

4. *Calls upon* all States to exercise the utmost vigilance against the danger posed by international mercenaries and to ensure that their territory and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the planning of subversion and recruitment, training and transit of mercenaries designed to overthrow the Government of any Member State;

5. *Further calls upon* all States to consider taking necessary measures to prohibit, under their respective domestic laws, the recruitment, training and transit of mercenaries on their territory and other territories under their control;

6. *Condemns* all forms of external interference in the internal affairs of Member States, including the use of international mercenaries to destabilize States and/or to violate their territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide appropriate technical assistance to help the Government of Benin in assessing and evaluating the damage resulting from the act of armed aggression committed at Cotonou on 16 January 1977;

8. *Appeals* to all States to provide material assistance to the People's Republic of Benin in order to enable it to repair the damage and losses inflicted during the attack;

9. *Notes* that the Government of Benin has reserved its right with respect to any eventual claims for compensation which it may wish to assert;

10. *Calls upon* all States to provide the Security Council with any information they might have in connexion with the events at Cotonou on 16 January 1977 likely to throw further light on those events;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow closely the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to remain seized of this question.

*Adopted at the 2005th meeting by consensus.*

**Decisions**

At its 2047th meeting, on 22 November 1977, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Cuba, Guinea and Madagascar to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled "Complaint by Benin: letter dated 4 November 1977 from the Permanent Representative of Benin to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/12437)".<sup>71</sup>

At its 2048th meeting, on 23 November 1977, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Algeria, the Congo, Mali and Viet Nam to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the question.

At its 2049th meeting, on 24 November 1977, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Angola, Equatorial Guinea and Mozambique to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the question.

**Resolution 419 (1977)**  
**of 24 November 1977**

*The Security Council,*

*Having heard* the statement of the Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of Benin to the United Nations,<sup>72</sup> especially regarding the threats of aggression by mercenaries,

*Deeply concerned* over the danger which international mercenaries represent for all States, in particular the smaller ones,

*Convinced* of the necessity of co-operation between all States, in conformity with paragraph 10 of resolution 405 (1977) of 14 April 1977, to collect more information about the mercenaries who operated against the People's Republic of Benin on 16 January 1977,

<sup>71</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-second Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1977.*

<sup>72</sup> *Ibid.*, *Thirty-second Year, 2047th meeting.*

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 405 (1977), in which it had, among other provisions, taken note of the report<sup>70</sup> of the Security Council Special Mission to the People's Republic of Benin established under resolution 404 (1977) of 8 February 1977 and strongly condemned the act of armed aggression perpetrated against the People's Republic of Benin on 16 January 1977 and all forms of external interference in the internal affairs of Member States, including the use of international mercenaries to destabilize States and/or to violate their territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence;

2. *Takes note* of the report on the evaluation of damages contained in document S/12415;<sup>73</sup>

3. *Calls upon* all States to work in close co-operation in order to gather all useful information concerning all mercenaries involved in the events of 16 January 1977, in compliance with paragraph 10 of resolution 405 (1977);

<sup>73</sup> *Ibid.*, Thirty-second Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1977.

4. *Takes note* of the desire of the Government of Benin to have the mercenaries who participated in the attacking forces against the People's Republic of Benin on 16 January 1977 subjected to due process of law;

5. *Appeals* to all States and all appropriate international organizations, including the United Nations and its specialized agencies, to assist Benin to repair the damage caused by the act of aggression;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to Benin for the implementation of paragraph 5 of the present resolution;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to watch over the implementation of the present resolution, with particular reference to paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 6, and to report to the Security Council not later than 30 September 1978;

8. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

*Adopted at the 2049th meeting without a vote.*